

DAILY WORLD

7 FEB 1973

CIA trains cops for political spying

By TIM WHEELER

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6—The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) is training local police across the nation in spy techniques against political dissenters and in the "handling of explosives and foreign weapons," in direct violation of U.S. law, Rep. Edward I. Koch (D-NY) charged today.

Koch, at a news conference in his office here, released photocopies of a letter he received from John M. Maury, CIA legislative counsel, admitting that the CIA trained "50 police officers ... from a total of about a dozen city and county police forces" in the past two years.

Maury said that the training included "procedures for processing, analyzing, filing and retrieving information, security devices and procedures and metal and explosives detection techniques."

CIA won't stop

The CIA, he added, "intends to continue to respond to such requests on matters within its competence and authority and to the extent possible without interfering with its primary missions."

Koch charged that the legislation creating the CIA "barred by statute" involvement in any domestic law enforcement activities.

The CIA, however, has claimed that the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 authorized it to engage in these activities.

Koch pointed out that the CIA has trained 14 New York police officers to manage spy files that include an estimated 1,000,000 dossiers on political dissenters in New York City alone, gathered by the so-called Bureau of Special Services and Intelligence (BOSSI), formerly the infamous New York "Red Squad."

"This," said Koch, "involves people who picket, who get involved in antiwar demonstrations. You know I don't eat lettuce. I'm sure my picture is in there."

He added, "I'm for abolishing BOSSI. I don't think that is what the police department is supposed to be all about."

Congress probe asked

He said he had sent copies of the CIA letter to Sen. Sam Ervin, chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights, and to Rep. Chet Holifield, of the Government Operations Committee, with a request that these committees investigate the CIA activities.

He added he had been bound to secrecy as to the names of the 11 other cities and counties where this training has taken place.

"Far too many files are being collected by law enforcement agencies on citizens in this country, and the involvement of the CIA will encourage that collection," Koch said.

"The very fact that the CIA is carefully exempted from the usually required reports to the Congress—indeed its budget is confidential and not accessible to individual members—poses a great danger."

The New York Times on Dec. 17 reported that four New York policemen received four days of training at a CIA facility in Arlington, Va., beginning last Sept. 11.

William H. T. Smith, New York Deputy Police Commissioner, told the Times the training was needed to handle "large amounts of information" gathered in their spying on citizens.

The CIA, Smith said, "pretty much set this up for us."

Koch wrote to CIA director Richard Helms Dec. 28, demanding details of the training program. Maury replied in a letter dated Jan. 29.

NEW YORK, Feb. 6—A spokesman for the New York City Police

Department declined comment on Rep. Koch's disclosure that the CIA trained 14 city policemen in the handling and collection of political dossiers. The spokesman told the Daily World that the question was being "reviewed."

Civil liberties organizations and other groups attacked the use of political dossiers by the police and have demanded their elimination. Revelations that a group of New York policemen have been trained in "political intelligence" by the CIA will undoubtedly stimulate new demands that the police stop political spying.